

THE TYREE CASE.

JUDGMENT OF THE PRESBYTERY OF MULL.

The circumstances of this case are as follows:—The parish of Tyree became vacant in the month of August, 1859, by the death of the then incumbent, the Rev. Neil M'Lean. Shortly after this event the parishioners unanimously signed a petition, which was forwarded to the Duke of Argyll, the proprietor of the island and patron of the parish, praying him to appoint as their pastor the Rev. Hugh M'Alpine, who had laboured amongst them with great success, as an ordained missionary, for several years. This petition was signed by upwards of 1000 people, but no notice whatever was taken of it by the patron. Some time afterwards the parishioners having ascertained that it was the intention of the patron to give them a leet, another petition by the kirk-session was forwarded to the Duke, craving that Mr. M'Alpine's name might be added to it, and it is believed that this gentleman addressed a letter to his Grace to the same effect. To none of these communications, however, was any reply made; but, shortly afterwards, two parties were sent to preach in the parish ostensibly as candidates—viz., the Rev. Donald M'Fadyen, now of Arduamurchan, and Mr. John Gregorson Campbell, the presentee. Of these two the people would have preferred Mr. M'Fadyen, but without in any way consulting their wishes in the matter, Mr. Campbell was at once presented to the parish, and was in due time appointed by the Presbytery to preach his trial discourses, which were numerous attended and attentively listened to by the congregation. The result, however, was, that the people were still dissatisfied with his ministrations, and as they did not feel themselves edified, they determined to object to his settlement. On the day for moderating in the call, accordingly, the following objections, signed by upwards of 150 individuals, were lodged with the Presbytery:—

1. Because, to our experience, his preaching is neither instructive nor impressive, and because his prayers are devoid of fervour.

2. That, by all appearance, his constitution is not strong